

THE TRIUMPHAL ENTRY



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Matthew 21:1-17

Jesus and His disciples walked toward Jerusalem. As they neared, Jesus sent two of the disciples into a village. “Go to the village. You will see a donkey and a colt. Untie them and bring them to Me.”

Jesus fulfilled a prophecy Zechariah made, “Tell Jerusalem that their King will come riding on a donkey. He will come with gentleness and humility.”

The disciples obeyed Jesus and brought the donkey and the colt. They laid their robes on the animal and Jesus sat on the animal.

A large crowd gathered. The people spread their robes on the road and some cut palm branches and placed them on the road. The people shouted, “Hosanna! He who comes in the name of the Lord is blessed!”

The city of Jerusalem was shaken by this event. Once Jesus entered Jerusalem, He went to the temple. Inside the temple complex, people were buying and selling things. Jesus turned over the tables. He said, “Scripture says that My house will be a house of prayer.” Jesus told the people they were turning the temple into a den of thieves. Those who could not see and those who could not walk came to Jesus. Jesus healed them. The children were shouting, “Hosanna.” The chief priests and the scribes were upset. Jesus left Jerusalem and spent the night at Bethany.

The Triumphal Entry

Session #5 & April 2, 2023

Younger Children's Activity

Resources Needed: Jumbo craft sticks (2 per child), rubber bands (2 per child), copy paper strips one inch wide(1 per child), 2 toothpicks per child, sharpies, small stickers

Directions:

- Write the text truth "Jesus is worthy of praise." on one craft stick.
- Decorate the other craft stick.
- Ask kids to place the paper strip between the 2 craft sticks.
- Wrap a rubber band around each end of the craft sticks.
- Help kids place toothpicks between the craft sticks on top of the paper at each end.
- Trim down the toothpicks to the width of the craft sticks.

Extra Activity: Donkey Race pg 45 (2 pool noodles per class)

Older Children's Activity

Resources Needed: Item 44: "Palm Template" printable one for each child printed on green heavy weight paper, scissors, tape, large craft stick (one per child)

Directions:

- Cut out green palm leaf.
- Fold the leaf accordion style.
- Pinch the leaf at the bottom and secure with tape.
- Cut slits in the top of the leaf about halfway down.
- Have kids write the text truth "Jesus is worthy of praise." on the craft stick.
- Attach large craft stick to the bottom of the leaf.

Extra Activity: Roll and Restore pg 45 (10 empty water bottles, marker, ball)



DONKEY RACE

Tools: 2 stick horses or 1 pool noodle, Item 8: "Review Questions" (Printables), painter's tape, Optional: scissors

□ *If you're using a pool noodle, cut it into two pieces lengthwise. Print the "Review Questions" for this week's session.*

- Using the painter's tape, make a start and finish line in the playing area. Ask kids to form two teams. Give each team a horse or noodle. Ask kids to race to the finish line. The first kid to cross the line will answer a "Review Question" or say the Memory Verse. Continue play as time allows.
- Say: "Jesus entered Jerusalem on a donkey. This happened to fulfill the prophecy from Zechariah. The people laid their robes and palm branches on the road. The people shouted praises to Jesus. **Jesus is worthy of praise.**"



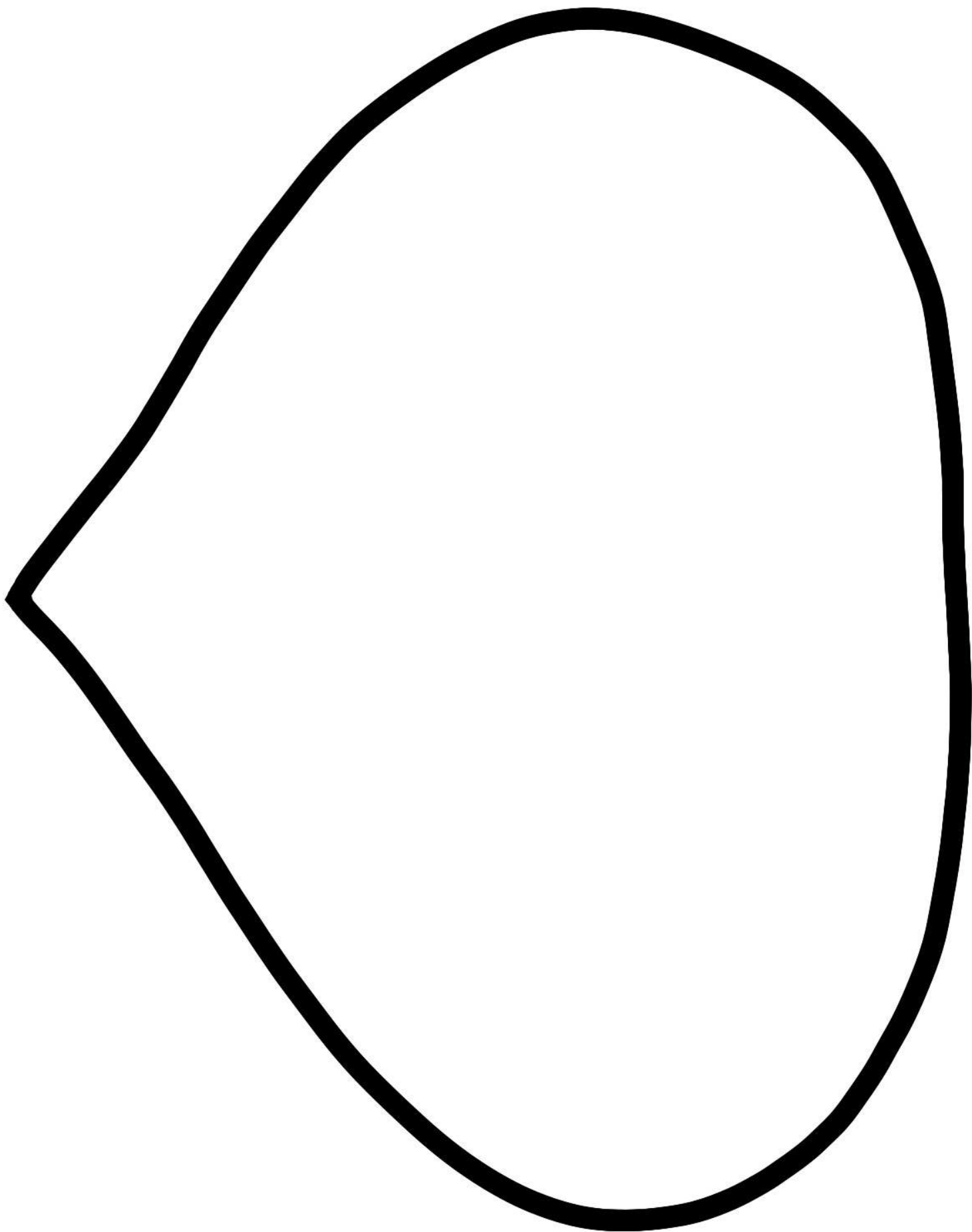
ROLL AND RESTORE

Tools: empty plastic bottles, marker, ball

□ *Print these scrambled words/phrases*

on empty bottles: nahsnoa, beors, mpla eelvas, sapire, seusJ, aersmuelJ, rocdw, siscediapl, rhecaiaZh, elpmte, tlebas, esuoh fo yerpar, delaeh (Words: hosanna, robes, palm leaves, praise, Jesus, Jerusalem, crowd, disciples, Zechariah, temple, tables, house of prayer, healed). Add other words from Bible story as you choose.

- Set up the bottles along a wall.
- Give each kid a turn to roll the ball and try to knock down a bottle.
- As each bottle is knocked over, instruct them to work together to unscramble the word/phrase and discuss how it relates to the Bible story.
- Say: "These words came from our Bible story, which reminds us that **Jesus, the humble Messiah, is worthy of praise.**"



THE TRIUMPHAL ENTRY

JESUS, THE HUMBLE MESSIAH, IS WORTHY OF PRAISE.

April 2



IVORY PLAQUE

This ivory plaque was carved in **ITALY** around the **YEAR 900**. It's about the size of a birthday card, and it shows a celebratory day in Jerusalem—the day the King arrived!

King Jesus fulfilled **ZECHARIAH'S PROPHECY** when He rode into Jerusalem on a donkey. A large crowd gathered to welcome Jesus. The people spread their robes on the ground for the donkey to walk on, and they waved palm branches and shouted, "**HOSANNA!**"

Locate the robes and palm branches in the picture, then turn to **MATTHEW 21** to see what happened after **JESUS ENTERED JERUSALEM**.

In Jesus' time, the Israelites grew flax to make linen for clothing. They also wore clothes made from sheep and goat hair and leather.

FIRST CENTURY FASHION

Cloth could be bleached in the sun or dyed using natural products made from plants, minerals, and even mollusks—like they did in Tyre! Common dyes included red, orange, green, purple, and pink.

The most commonly worn garments were the **himation** (outer robes and cloaks) and the **chiton** (fitted undergarments and tunics).

People also had accessories like belts, sandals, bracelets, signet rings, and walking sticks.

People placed their outer robes on the ground as Jesus entered Jerusalem. Doing this was a symbol of submission and humility, usually shown only to royalty!

BIBLE PASSAGE:
MATTHEW 21:1-17

MEMORY VERSE:
ROMANS 5:1



STORY SEQUENCE

Number the events from today's Bible story in the order that they happened. Use your Bible to look at **MATTHEW 21:1-17** for help.

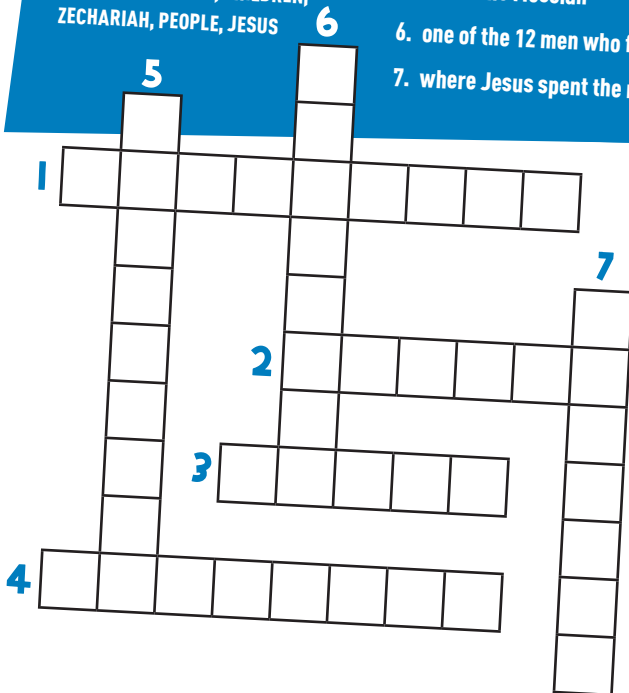
- ☐ Jesus and His disciples walked toward Jerusalem.
- ☐ Jesus left Jerusalem and spent the night at Bethany.
- ☐ The disciples laid their robes on the animal, and Jesus sat on the animal.
- ☐ Jesus turned over the tables and told the people they were turning the temple into a den of thieves.
- ☐ The people shouted, "Hosanna! He who comes in the name of the Lord is blessed!"
- ☐ Jesus healed those who could not see and those who could not walk.
- ☐ As they neared, Jesus sent two of the disciples into a village to get a donkey and a colt.
- ☐ The children were shouting, "Hosanna."
- ☐ Jesus went to the temple and saw people buying and selling things.
- ☐ The chief priests and the scribes were upset.

PEOPLE AND PLACES CROSSWORD

Solve the clues to discover some of the people and places mentioned in **MATTHEW 21**. Use the word bank for help.

WORD BANK: JERUSALEM, DISCIPLE, BETHANY, CHILDREN, ZECHARIAH, PEOPLE, JESUS

1. the city Jesus entered
2. the ones who spread their robes on the road
3. entered Jerusalem on a donkey
4. shouted "hosanna" in the temple
5. prophet who made a promise/prophecy about the Messiah
6. one of the 12 men who followed Jesus
7. where Jesus spent the night



IS ANGER SINFUL?

When Jesus saw what the moneychangers were doing in the temple complex, He flipped over their tables and chairs! Was this sinful?

For us, anger is often a selfish and destructive emotion. But Jesus' anger was not like ours. Because Jesus was sinless, His anger was sinless.

Jesus' anger is described as "zeal" (John 2:17)—a passionate motivation to keep God's house pure.

When we experience anger, we should be careful to not let it control us or tempt us toward sin, hurt, or destruction. We can pray and ask God to help us resolve our anger in a way that honors Him.

16TH CENTURY FRENCH CARVING OF JESUS DRIVING THE MONEYCHANGERS FROM THE TEMPLE

